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Post-Tribune News
Headlines

**Good morning from the
Post-Tribune!**

**Ruling on BP spill
expected soon**

BP expects to find out whether it faces fines or corrective action for the March 24 oil spill at the Whiting refinery within the next few weeks. Lt. Brian Dykens, a spokesman for the U.S. Coast Guard's Lake Michigan sector, said recommendations were sent to ...

**Law & Order: Charges
dropped against Gary
cop**

Lake County prosecutors have dropped three felony charges against a Gary police officer, alleging ghost

employment and theft, saying the state lacks proof to obtain a conviction. Jennifer T. Powell, 38, who has been on unpaid leave since February, is expected to be reinstated to ...

**East Chicago resident
faces drug charges
following raid**

An East Chicago man is facing federal charges after a raid on his house discovered large amounts of cocaine and marijuana, authorities said. Jose Alvarez is charged with possession with intent to sell more than 500 grams of cocaine and possessing a gun in furtherance ...

**M'ville gives early OK
for landscaping business**

HOBART - A Merrillville restaurateur on Thursday received two of the three approvals needed to open a landscaping business off U.S. 30, west of Stardust Bowl, this summer. During a special plan commission meeting, Sergio Gutierrez, a Hobart resident and owner of the Villa Del ...

**Gary, county cops
conduct another sweep
of streets**

GARY - Expired plates, cracked windshields, traffic violations and even

jaywalking - no reason was too small to warrant a stop Friday night by police. About 60 officers from 10 jurisdictions saturated the streets of Gary and the Borman Expressway in the second mass sweep ...

**Merrillville looks to
resolve Southmoor Park
sewer woes**

MERRILLVILLE - The town council is considering using funds from a special taxing district to help solve sewer problems in the Southmoor Park subdivision. Resident Clarence Phillips told the council that he appreciates that the town is working on a solution to drainage problems he ...

**Valpo superintendent
recommends school
realignments**

VALPARAISO - Superintendent Mike Berta has advised the Valparaiso Community Schools to build a new high school, close Central Elementary School and re-arrange grades to make a fifth and sixth grade intermediate school. The other seven elementary schools would remain neighborhood schools but would require ...

**Valpo man accused of
holding knife to**

girlfriend's throat

VALPARAISO - A

Valparaiso man was arrested early Friday morning after allegedly holding a knife to his girlfriend's throat when she told him to leave her home Thursday. Drakkar Johnson, 26, then allegedly threatened her; according to the police report, he said: "You are jeopardizing ...

3 GOP incumbents, newcomer face off

GOP incumbents, newcomer face off in Westchester Township race ...

McCowan murder conviction upheld

Dustin McCowan lost his request to have his murder conviction overturned after the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled against him Thursday. McCowan argued in his appeal that the trial judge improperly allowed evidence taken from his cellphone, which he said police searched without reason and ...

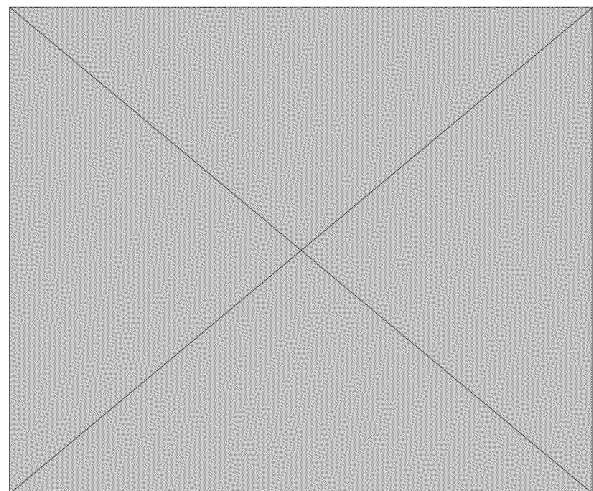
Judge: Dead woman's video statement to cops admissible

VALPARAISO - Statements a woman made to police investigating a murder case can be used as testimony,

even though she is dead,
because the defendant likely
had a hand in her death,
Porter Superior Judge Roger
Bradford ruled. The decision
was handed down
Wednesday and ...

Porter County Briefs:
Probation change for
teacher in sexting case

The Portage middle school
teacher convicted of
"sexting" with three of his
students will be allowed to
live within 1,000 feet of a
park during his 46-month
probation, a Porter County
judge has ruled. Superior
Court Judge Mary Harper
modified the probation for
former Fegley ...



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